



*Making a difference...*

**One puppy at a time...**

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## **The Five Most Important Things To Consider Before You Buy a Puppy**

1. Is my puppy and his parents healthy and free of genetic disorders?  
A sick or unhealthy puppy can cause a financial and emotional strain. Make sure both the puppy and its parents are happy and healthy, so you can truly enjoy your puppy and receive unconditional love from man's best friend.
2. Has my puppy been well socialized?  
Science and experience has taught us that 8 to 16 weeks of age is the absolute most important time to socialize your puppy. Failure to do this can cause lots of frustration in training and can prevent your puppy from reaching its full potential. Make sure your puppy gets well socialized at a young age and he will be everyone's best friend.
3. Is my breed of puppy suited for our home?  
Carefully consider what size, temperament, and personality is a fit for your family. Becoming attached to a puppy only to realize you cannot possibly give it a good home is a heart-wrenching experience. Finding the perfect match will ensure that you have a long and happy life together.
4. Does my puppy come from a responsible breeder?  
Although it might be tempting to search for the cheapest puppy you can find, there is usually a reason it is cheaper. Remember, being a responsible pet owner starts with buying from a responsible source.
5. Is there support available after my puppy comes home?  
Even with the most carefully-made plans, unforeseen circumstances can turn up. Seemingly small problems can escalate quickly with a small puppy. Be sure you have a good line of communication with a knowledgeable veterinarian and breeder that you can fall back on in case of emergency to ensure that your puppy gets off to a great start.